



NORTHEAST COALITION
OF NEIGHBORHOODS

RECEIVED ON:

JUN 16 2016

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EPA Region 10

Office of the Regional Administrator

June 8, 2016

Dennis McLerran, Regional Administrator
EPA Region 10
1200 6th Ave.
Seattle, WA 98101

Dear Administrator McLerran,

I am writing on the behalf of the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN), and the twelve inner North & Northeast Portland neighborhoods we represent, to request that the EPA extend the proposed comment period for the Portland Harbor Superfund Cleanup Plan from to sixty a minimum of ninety days.

NECN is dedicated to working with our residents and neighbors to build inclusive, safe and livable communities, and we believe that a 60-day comment period is inadequate for a plan of this complexity and importance. A 60-day comment period does not provide adequate opportunity for public notice and does not allow adequate time for meaningful review, analysis and community engagement.

We are especially concerned that a short comment period will disproportionately disenfranchise low-income and underserved communities, including those who are most at risk from the contamination of the Portland Harbor, because they rely on the Willamette River for subsistence fishing. These communities are often difficult to reach and engage in a public comment period and, thus, a 60-day comment period is inequitable, and unacceptable, to us. All members of our neighborhoods deserve the opportunity to have a reasonable public comment period that reflects the complexity, density, and importance of this plan.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Alan Silver
Executive Committee Chair

www.necoalition.org

Alameda | Boise | Concordia | Elliot | Grant Park | Humboldt | Irvington | King | Sabin | Sullivan's Gulch | Vernon | Woodlawn
At King Neighborhood Facility, 4815 NE 7th Avenue, Portland, OR 97211. 503-388-5004 main, 503-894-8534 fax, info@necoalition.org